

Kennedy Death Priest Transferred to Phoenix

ONE OF TWO Dallas priests who gave the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church to President Kennedy in a Dallas Hospital has been transferred to a Phoenix parish.

He is the Rev. James N. Thompson, CM, new assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 3140 N. 51st Ave.

FATHER Thompson came here Saturday from Holy Trinity Church, Dallas, where he served under the Very Rev. Oscar L. Huber, CM.

The two priests, whose parish is in Parkland Memorial Hospital where the President was taken, rushed to the hospital after the first bulletins of the assassination were announced.

"We looked at each other and decided we had to go to the hospital," said Father Thompson. "Father Huber got the oils (the holy oils used to anoint dying persons) and I got the car."

FATHER Thompson re-

called that there was a slight delay at the hospital because of the tight security measures thrown up around the area. Then, he said, Mrs. Kennedy called for a priest.

The two priests followed Mrs. Kennedy into the hospital's emergency room. Father Huber administered the last rite. Father Thompson standing nearby gave the prayers for the dying.

"We knew the President was medically dead at the time," said Father Thompson. Doctors arbitrarily decided the time of death was 1 p.m. immediately after the last rite was given.